

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested to place the application in condition for allowance. Prior to the amendment, claims 1-13 and 18 stand rejected, claims 14-17 stand allowed and claims 19-30 stand objected to.

Claims 1-13 and 18 have been canceled, without prejudice to their re-introduction in a continuation application, in order to obtain earlier allowance of the remaining claims

Claims 14-17 stand allowed.

Claims 19-30 have been amended to make claims 19 and 20 independent claims incorporating canceled claim 18 such that claims 19-30 are no longer dependent on a rejected base claim. Claim 26 has also been amended to remove the language "(the filtrate)" in suggested by the Examiner. As such, claims 19-30 are in a condition the Examiner has indicated as allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, an allowance of all the claims is respectfully submitted. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Charles W. Calkins at (336) 607-7315 to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles W. Calkins  
Reg. No. 31,814

Kilpatrick Stockton LLP  
1001 West Fourth Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
(336) 607 - 7300